

Message Text

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45

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FBIE-00 CPR-01 USSS-00 SCCT-01

DHA-02 IOE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02 EB-07 SY-05 ACDA-05

NEA-10 /098 W

----- 060297

O 091844Z MAR 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6222

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMCONGEN LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE

DEPT OF JUSTICE IMMEDIATE UNN

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DEPT OF JUSTICE FOR FRANK NILAND AND JAMES ROBINSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, UR, CZ

SUBJ: EXPLOSION AT AEROFLOT AND CZECH AIRLINE OFFICES

1. AT 11:43 PM, MARCH 8, 1976, HIGH EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DETONATED IN ENTRANCE WAY TO HORN AND HARDART COFFEE SHOP LOCATED AROUND THE CORNER ON 45TH STREET FROM ENTRANCES TO AEROFLOT TICKET OFFICE AND CZECHOSLOVAK AIRLINES TICKET OFFICE WHICH ARE LOCATED IN SAME BUILDING, BUT WHICH ARE ENTERED FROM FIFTH AVENUE. THERE WERE NO INJURIES. (THE ADDRESS IS 545 FIFTH AVENUE, BUT THE ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING, WHICH IS MULTI-STORIED, IS ON 45TH STREET ADJACENT TO HORN AND HARDART IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION.) AEROFLOT OCCUPIES ADDITIONAL SPACE ON SECOND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING, PART OF WHICH IS DIRECTLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABOVE HORN AND HARDART ENTRANCE WAY. CZECH AIRLINES HAS

FOUR DISPLAY WINDOWS WHICH ARE LOCATED AT STREET LEVEL ON 45TH STREET ADJACENT TO HORN AND HARDART IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION.

2. ENTRANCE WAY TO HORN AND HARDART SUFFERED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE AND THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY SIX WINDOWS BROKEN ON OFFICE BUILDING ACROSS 45TH STREET. AEROFLOT OFFICE SPACE ON SECOND FLOOR, 45TH STREET SIDE, SUSTAINED ONE BROKEN WINDOW. THIS IS THE ONLY DAMAGE TO SOVIET PROPERTY. TWO OF THE FOUR DISPLAY WINDOWS OF CZECH AIRLINES LOCATED AT STREET LEVEL ON 45H STREET WERE SPLINTERED (SAFETY GLASS); THERE WAS INSIDE DAMAGE CZECH TICKET OFFICE.

3. NEW YORK POST RECEIVED CALL AT 1:10 AM, MARCH 9, FROM ANONYMOUS MALE WHO STATED THAT "JEWISH ARMED RESISTANCE" WAS TAKING CREDIT FOR EXPLOSION. NEW YORK POST EMPLOYEE, KENNETH MORAN, RECALLED THAT CALLER SAID ACTION WAS TO "PROTEST MIDDLE EAST SITUATION."

4. NEW YORK CITY POLICE MAINTAIN 24-HOUR FIXED POST AT AEROFLOT OFFICES. EXACT LOCATION OF FIXED POST IS IN FRONT OF TICKET OFFICE ENTRANCE AT STREET LEVEL ON FIFTH AVENUE, AROUND THE CORNER AND APPROXIMATELY 100 FEET FROM THE SITE OF THE EXPLOSION. POLICE OFFICER WAS AT THAT LOCATION WHEN HE HEARD EXPLOSION. HE DID NOT SEE ANYONE RUNNING FROM THE SCENE. POLICE MAINTAIN THAT THE OFFICER HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS AND NO REASON TO WALK AROUND THE CORNER TO OBSERVE AREA WHERE EXPLOSIVE WAS PLACED. POLICE OFFICER BY REMAINING ON FIFTH AVENUE IN FRONT OF AEROFLOT TICKET OFFICE IS ALSO PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR ENTRANCE WAY TO CZECH AIRLINES TICKET OFFICE SINCE IT IS ALSO ON FIFTH AVENUE NEXT DOOR TO AEROFLOT. IT IS EASY TO SPECULATE THAT HAD THERE NOT BEEN A POLICE OFFICER IN FRONT OF ENTRANCE TO AEROFLOT TICKET OFFICE OR HAD THE POLICE OFFICER NOT BEEN MANNING HIS POST PROPERLY, ENTRANCE WAY TO AEROFLOT TICKET OFFICE WOULD HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS THE LOCATION FOR THE BOMB AND IF SO THAT OFFICE WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED.

5. NEW YORK CITY POLICE AND FBI ARE CONDUCTING JOINT IN-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VESTIGATION.
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRLINES, EXPLOSIONS, INVESTIGATIONS, BUILDING DAMAGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN00912
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760089-0353
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760378/aaaacqwa.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <04 AUG 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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